

**ORUS FEMINEUS, A NEW SPECIES OF STAPHYLINIDAE  
(COLEOPTERA) FROM FLORIDA**

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ABSTRACT—*Orus femineus* is described from Florida. This is the first species in the genus in which the female has diagnostic sexual characteristics.

The genus *Orus* was revised by Herman (1964, 1965) who presented excellent illustrations including invaluable drawings of the secondary male characteristics, thus making positive specific identifications possible for the first time. Moore and Legner (1972) described and illustrated 2 new species of *Orus* (*s. str.*) from California.

In this paper we describe a new species of *Orus* (*s. str.*) from Florida, the first of this genus from the southeastern United States except for a single doubtful record of *Orus* (*Pycnorus*) *dentiger* (Le Conte) from Georgia.

Females of *Orus* usually have very weak external distinguishing characters. The female of the new species described below has a strong character to distinguish it from all others.

KEY TO MALES OF ORUS (*S. STR.*)

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Last visible abdominal sternite shallowly emarginate, emargination not deeper than wide .....  | 2                                 |
| — Last visible abdominal sternite deeply emarginate, emargination deeper than wide .....  | 4                                 |
| 2. Fifth visible abdominal sternite emarginate; neck $\frac{1}{2}$ the width of head ...  | 3                                 |
| — Fifth visible abdominal sternite sinuato-truncate; neck $\frac{1}{4}$ the width of head .....   | <i>shastanus</i> Casey            |
| 3. Fourth visible abdominal sternite with central emargination bounded each side at border by denticle; surface centrally impressed with tubercle within impression ..... | <i>femineus</i> n. sp.            |
| — Fourth visible abdominal sternite unmodified .....  | <i>montanus</i> Fall              |
| 4. Fifth visible abdominal sternite sinuate along posterior margin .....  | .....                             |
| .....   | <i>sinnatus</i> Herman            |
| — Fifth visible abdominal sternite with posterior margin lobed or emarginate  | 5                                 |
| 5. Fifth visible abdominal sternite emarginate .....  | 6                                 |
| — Fifth visible abdominal sternite lobed .....  | 8                                 |
| 6. Emargination of 5th visible abdominal sternite more than $\frac{1}{2}$ as deep as wide .....   | <i>giulianii</i> Moore and Legner |
| — Emargination of 5th visible abdominal sternite less than $\frac{1}{2}$ as deep as wide .....  | 7                                 |

7. Fifth visible abdominal sternite deeply impressed .....  
 ..... *frommeri* Moore and Legner
- Fifth visible abdominal sternite very shallowly impressed ..... *fraterius* Fall
8. Fifth visible abdominal tergite with tubercle ..... 10
- Fifth visible abdominal tergite without tubercle ..... 9
9. Paramere short, not extending beyond apex of median lobe, broad, with lateral margins straight in dorsal aspect ..... *hemilobatus* Herman
- Paramere long, extending beyond apex of median lobe, slender, with lateral margins sinuate in dorsal aspect ..... *punctatus* Casey
10. Abdominal tubercle well developed, margined laterally by a carina; metafemora carinate ..... *femoratus* Fall
- Abdominal tubercle feeble, not margined by carina; metafemora not carinate ..... *distinctus* Casey

*Orus* (*s. str.*) *femineus* Moore and Legner, new species

Holotype (male): Head and pronotum dark castaneous with anterior margin of pronotum paler; elytra piceous with narrow testaceous border; abdomen piceous; antennae, trophi and legs testaceous. *Head*: As wide as long; above finely densely punctured and finely densely microreticulate; beneath sculptured much as above except gula which is smooth and not impressed; supraorbital fovea vague; labrum strongly quadridentate, 2 central teeth slightly longer than lateral teeth, central teeth obliquely truncate at apices. *Pronotum*:  $\frac{1}{10}$  longer than head,  $\frac{1}{5}$  longer than wide; sculptured much like head; with vague longitudinal raised central line. *Elytra*:  $\frac{1}{10}$  longer than pronotum, conjointly  $\frac{1}{10}$  wider than long; surface sculpture a little coarser than that of head and pronotum. Anterior tarsus moderately dilated. *Abdomen*: With surface of 3rd visible sternite vaguely impressed centrally near apex; apical margin of 4th visible sternite emarginate in central  $\frac{3}{4}$ , emargination with distinct tooth each side, surface impressed adjacent to emargination, center of impression raised in distinct, conical tubercle; apical margin of 5th visible sternite shallowly emarginate in central third, the adjacent surface strongly impressed; apical margin of 6th visible sternite abruptly emarginate in central third, the emargination almost as deep as wide, surface strongly impressed adjacent to the emargination. Length 4.5 mm.

Tall Timbers Research Station, about 25 miles north of Tallahassee, Florida, July 11, 1972, ultraviolet light, C. W. O'Brien collector.

Allotype (female): Similar to holotype except head and pronotum a little darker; anterior tarsus not dilated; sternites not modified; 6th tergite with surface in apical half deeply impressed each side of midline so as to create distinct ridge which is produced beyond apex in pointed tooth. Same data as holotype.

Paratypes: One ♀, same data as holotype; 1 ♂, 2 ♀ same data except July 4, 1972; 1 ♀ same data except July 7, 1972; 1 ♂ Gainesville, Florida March 4-6, 1967, ultraviolet light, D. L. Hays collector.

Variation: The testaceous apical margin of the elytra is reduced or absent on some specimens.

Distribution of types: The holotype and allotype are deposited in the Entomology Department of the California Academy of Sciences, 1 paratype each with University of Florida; Florida State Collection of Arthropods; J. F. Cornell;

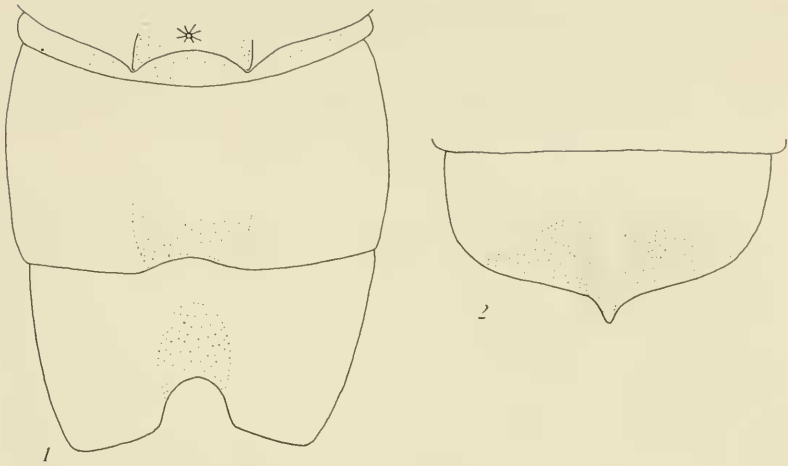


Fig. 1-2. *Orus femineus* n. sp. 1, Apex of fourth, and fifth and sixth visible abdominal sternites of male. 2, Sixth visible abdominal tergite of female.

and the remaining 2 specimens in the collection of the University of California at Riverside.

The most remarkable characteristic of this species is the strongly modified 6th visible tergite of the female. Females of the other known species of *Orus* are very difficult to differentiate among themselves.

Males of this species can be distinguished from all other species by the strongly modified 4th visible tergite with a pronounced tubercle in the middle of the central impression.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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